

United States Attorney Deborah J. Rhodes Southern District of Alabama

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CONTACT: CHARLIE McNICHOL

PHONE: (251) 415-7131 FAX: (251) 441-5277

FAIRHOPE MAN INDICTED FOR ATTEMPTED ENTICEMENT OF A CHILD TO COMMIT A SEXUAL ACT

MOBILE, AL – Fairhope resident, Fleet Hollinger, was arrested today based upon an indictment returned by a federal grand jury. The indictment charges Hollinger with using the internet to attempt to persuade, induce or entice a child to engage in criminal sexual activity, in violation of 18 United States Code § 2422(b), and requesting forfeiture of his computer.

United States Attorney Deborah J. Rhodes said, "Federal law protects children from predators by providing tough penalties for those who use the internet to attempt to entice children into sexual activity. Fortunately, in this case, the alleged attempt was not successful."

FBI Special Agent in Charge Debra Mack said, "The FBI is committed to fully investigate all allegations of federal law where a child is threatened."

This case is the result of a cooperative effort between the Alabama Bureau of Investigation, the Mobile County District Attorney's Office and the FBI and is part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide Department of Justice initiative which is based upon partnership among federal, state and local law enforcement, child advocacy groups and community organizations to prevent child exploitation and to prosecute offenders.

An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe

that an offense has been committed by a defendant. A defendant is presumed innocent until and unless he or she is proven guilty at trial. If convicted of these charges, Hollinger faces a sentence of 5 to 30 years imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000, and a lifetime of supervised release following his prison term.